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January 2016

Harriet Webster Marr Correspondence

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Marr, Harriet Webster

b. Biddeford, Maine

Harriet Webster Marr was born in Biddeford, Maine, and prepared for college at North Yarmouth Academy, Yarmouth, Maine. She took both her Bachelor of Arts and her Master of Arts degrees at Radcliffe College.

Miss Marr taught at three New England academies: North Yarmouth, Maine, and Atkinson and Pembroke in New Hampshire. After taking her degree, she taught history at the High School in Keene, New Hampshire, and then at the Classical High School in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Many of her articles about New England academies and New England people have been published in The Yankee, Essex Institute Historical Collections, Old Time New England Magazine and Antiques. Her children's stories were published in Children's Religion and other children's periodicals. A number of her poems have appeared in Poet Lore and The Advance.

The Alumni Association of Atkinson Academy prevailed upon her to write the early history of the school. That work aroused such interest in the old academies that the present book is the result.

Miss Marr makes her home in Springfield, Massachusetts.

from the jacket of OLD NEW ENGLAND ACADEMIES

June 25, 1959

Miss Harriet Webster Marr
c/o Comet Press
200 Varick Street
New York City 14

Dear Miss Marr:

You have done a most commendable work in your OLD NEW ENGLAND ACADEMIES, and we congratulate you on packing so much information and research into the book, and making it so enjoyable. We ordered copies at once for the library, and now we write in behalf of the Maine Author Collection.

As you may remember, this is a permanent exhibit of Maine books and books by Maine writers. Most of the volumes are inscribed presentation copies, and we are proud of the variety and originality of the inscriptions. The collection is valuable and interesting, and we are delighted when we can welcome a new book and a new writer to its shelves.

We hope that you will want to inscribe a copy of OLD NEW ENGLAND ACADEMIES for this purpose. It would give us a great deal of pleasure to include your book. Meanwhile, you have our warm wishes for its success.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

JUL 16

Your request for a copy of my book, OLD NEW ENGLAND ACADEMIES has been received, and I plan to send a copy of that book, and also my ATKINSON ACADEMY, THE EARLY YEARS, and a copy of my sisters book of poems. Mailing is a bit delayed for I had to send to the publisher for the book, and am waiting for certain mimeographed material to be completed, — a PROLOGUE to the Academies, cut out by the publishers because the book was too long. I am fond of it, and I am supplying it wherever possible to those who have the book. I hope you will read the Prologue, and perhaps let me know how you like it.

Sincerely

Harriet W. Mann



REPLY CARD
THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Maine Authors Collection

State Library

Augusta

Maine



31 Maple St., Springfield 3, Mass.
Sept. 8, 1959

Mrs. F. W. Jacob
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

For various reasons I have been delayed in sending the book you asked for, THE OLD NEW ENGLAND ACADEMIES. I have taken the liberty of sending also an earlier book of mine, ATKINSON ACADEMY, THE EARLY YEARS. And I am inclosing also the book of my sister's poems. That one is not autographed, but I have added on the title page the dates of her short life. I do not care especially whether you read my books, but please read some of her poems especially those on pages 24, 26, 27, 55, 56, 57, 66, and 68. Is that too long an assignment?

I am very happy to be represented, and especially to have my sister represented on the case of Maine authors. Thank you for asking me.

Sincerely yours,

Harriet Webster Marr

I have slipped in at the beginning of the text of the OLD ACADEMIES a typed page of the Prologue that was left out when the publishers insisted on cutting the length of the book, and I am inclosing also a couple of other copies which I should be glad to have inserted in the Library copies of my book.

H.W.M.

September 16, 1959

Miss Harriet Webster Marr
31 Maple Street
Springfield 3, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Marr:

For your very generous gifts to the Maine Author Collection, we express unbounded thanks. We hardly dared hope for your earlier history, of Atkinson Academy; this is delightful indeed.

And for your sister's poems we are most grateful. They are marked by a true gift of scholarship, and her sensitivity and simplicity of spirit shine through the lines. Thank you for your suggestions -- those are remarkably lovely poems, but so many of the others are, also, that the entire little volume becomes a treasure.

We are indebted to you for the privilege of adding these three books to the collection.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection